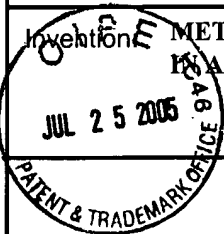


AF/1744Z

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)				Docket No. SM-5455-DIV-US 0112713-1304	
Applicant(s): Bilstad et al.					

Application No. 09/970,580	Filing Date October 4, 2001	Examiner Krisanne M. Jastrzab	Customer No. 29200	Group Art Unit 1744	Confirmation No. 2598
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**INVENTION METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED COMPONENTS
IN AN ACTIVE STERILE FIELD**



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE	
TOTAL CLAIMS	16 -	65 =	0	x \$50.00	\$0.00	
INDEP. CLAIMS	1 -	3 =	0	x \$200.00	\$0.00	
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>						\$0.00
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT						\$0.00

- ☒ No additional fee is required for amendment.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____
- ☐ A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **02-1818**
 - ☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16.
 - ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

Signature

Dated: July 19, 2005

Matthew T. Ridsdale
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BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC
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Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135
Phone: 312.807.4214

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on	
July 19, 2005	
(Date)	
Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence	
Matthew T. Ridsdale	
Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence	

CC:



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3762

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Bilstad et al.
Appl. No.: 09/970,580
Conf. No.: 2598
Filed: October 4, 2001
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANIPULATING PRE-STERILIZED
COMPONENTS IN AN ACTIVE STERILE FIELD
Art Unit: 1744
Examiner: KRISANNE M. JASTRZAB
Docket No.: SM-5455-DIV-US (112713-1304)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE

Madame:

In response to the Final Action dated May 19, 2005, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.